THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Commission of Railway Safety

3251. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the safety of a rail passenger is the responsibility of an office called the Commission of Railway Safety (CRS);

(b) if so, whether the credibility of CRS has come under considerable strain after the recent Rajdhani Express accident;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by Government to make free from the undue pressure on this organisation in the interest of the safety of a rail passenger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir. The responsibility of safety of rail passenger lies with the Indian Railways.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Commission of Railway Safety, though, charged with the inquiry into serious rail accidents as defined in Indian Railway Act, 1989, is independent of Ministry of Railways, as it functions under the authority of Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Misbehave by CRPF Jawans in Kerala Express

3252. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a group of tipsy CRPF Jawans tortured a school team from Madhya Pradesh, consisting of girls and female teaching staff, travelling in Thiruvananthapuram bound Kerala Express, on the 18th October, 2002;